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From: Eoc, Epahq
Sent: Thur 1/30/2014 12:43:04 AM
Subject: EOC Spot Report Chemical Spill, Charleston, WV - Update #21:

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EOC Spot Report: Chemical Spill, Charleston WV - Update #21

US Environmental Protection Agency

Report as of 2000 January 29, 2014

Overview: On January 10, the President approved an Emergency Declaration for the State of West Virginia after a chemical, 4-methylcyclohexanemethanol, (MCHM) leaked at a Freedom Industries chemical plant and into the Elk River in Charleston, WV. The spill occurred near the Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant which detected the chemical even after an increased carbon treatment effort was put in place. Freedom Industries is working to clean up the spill at the facility and in the river.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: West Virginia water authorities issued a "Do Not Use Water Notice" for 10 counties and the President's Emergency Declaration covers eight counties. West Virginia American Water Company (WVAWC) customers were told not to use tap water for drinking, cooking, washing, or bathing. Water could be used for toilets and fire emergencies. When the incident originally occurred, it contaminated drinking water for 300,000 people. The emergency declaration was closed on 1/20.

Region 3 OSCs reported that during a Multi-Agency Briefing at the WVAWC, the National Guard Civil Support Team announced that they will start sampling the 233 schools identified on the WVAWC distribution system within the 9 impacted counties. They will be collecting one sample per school from the kitchen sink.

The facility is continuing to pump water upgradient of the secondary containment area. The majority of the site is frozen and most of the holes/sumps dug inside the tank containment are frozen and cannot be pumped.

The facility revised their estimate of the amount of material leaked to 10,000 gallons. The facility's contractor continues to pump water from the containment trench into an onsite tank for temporary storage. The facility is improving the containment trench by installing perforated pipe and a sump under the liner. The liner will be placed over the pipe and will be tied into the base

of the slope.

Ice in the river is causing difficulty with maintaining the river boom in place. The facility contractor continues to break the ice and to properly position the river booms. The booms will be allowed to freeze in place. However, ice will continually need to be cleared from the outside of the boom to allow boat access.

EPA Action:

EPA Region 3 will be taking split samples on January 29 along with WV DEP and CEC, the facility's remediation contractor, from the collection trench, a seep behind the secondary containment area, and four monitoring wells down gradient of the tank farm

The Ft. Meade Lab is ready to run the samples (5-7 sample locations) collected by WV DEP, CEC, and EPA. The sampling will depend on the amount of water that has accumulated in the sumps. The samples will be analyzed for MCHM/PPH and total VOCs.

The local media reported that a Marshall University professor found formaldehyde in a drinking water sample from a restaurant in Charleston, WV. EPA is reaching out to the professor to indentify his sampling and analytical methods.

EPA Region 3 continues to monitor and provide oversight of facility activities at the Freedom Industries tank farm site and the Poca staging facility. EPA continues to coordinate with WVDEP and WVAVWC.

Media Interest: High

<http://www.weather.com/news/science/environment/west-virginia-chemical-spill-latest-20140128>

The HQ EOC will continue to monitor and provide updates as needed.

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